## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-25** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /104 W

----- 077915

R 091430Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2361

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PARAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJ: BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO NOVOROSSIYSK

1. BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO NOVOROSSIYSK SEPTEMBER 6-8 SEEMED PRIMARILY A SENTIMENTAL VISIT AND AN EXERCISE IN IMAGE-BUILDING DESPITE THE CEREMONIES AND TRAPPINGS USUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH VISITS ABROAD OR SUBSTATIVE DOMESTIC OCCASIONS. POLITBURO TURNOUT AT VNUKOVO II DEPARTURE AND RETURN WAS SUBSTANTIAL, AND THREE OF BREZHNEV'S ADVISERS--TSUKANOV, ALEKSANDROV, AND GOLIKOV-ACCOMPANIED HIM. SPEECH AT NOVOROSSIYSK ON MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 7 LASTED 75 MINUTES, BUT THE ONLY REMARKS OF SIGNIFICANCE CONCERNED AGRICULTURE AND NEXT PARTY CONGRESS. BREZHNEV SAID SOME AREAS IN SIBERIA AND KAZAKHSTAN WERE HIT BY BAD WEAHTER AND WOULD BE GIVEN ASSISTANCE, BUT OVERALL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HARVEST WAS "NOT BAD" AND WOULD MEET GOALS AND PLEDGES.

BREZHNEV NOTED THAT EFFORTS OF ALL ORGANIZATIONS NOW ARE POINTED TOWARD THE 25TH PARTY CONGRESS AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN PERFORMANCE.

- 2. OTHER SPEAKERS AT NOVOROSSIYSK WERE EXCEPTIONALLY WARM IN PRAISE OF BREZHNEV'S 1943 EXPLOITS, AND SUNDAY VREMYA ALLOTTED 15 MINUTES TO REPORTAGE ON BREZHNEV'S VISIT. PERSONAL INTERVIEWS PLAYED UP BREZHNEV'S PRESENCE RATHER THAN THE AWARD CEREMONY AS THE BIG NEWS. TIME-FILLING NATURE OF MEDIA COVERAGE WAS CLEAR FROM TELEVISION WHICH ALSO SHOWED CEREMONIES DURING CHANGE FROM PLANE TO HELICOPTER AT ANAPA AIRPORT.
- 3. BREZHNEV APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD FORM BUT WAS VISIBLY BOTHERED BY DENTAL DISCOMFORT AFTER MAIN SPEECH.
- 4. EMBASSY NOT AWARE OF BREZHNEV'S SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK BUT TIMING OF NOVOROSSIYSK VISIT ONE WEEK BEFORE ACTUAL ANNIVERSARY DATE SUGGESTS SCHEDULE CONFLICT. DUBS

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: PARTY LEADERS, VISITS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 09 SEP 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW13659

Document Number: 1974MOSCOW13659 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740250-1053

From: MOSCOW

Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740964/aaaacbul.tel

Line Count: 81 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a

Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: garlanwa

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 08 MAY 2002

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>

**Review Markings:** 

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO NOVOROSSIYSK

TAGS: PINT, UR, (BREZHNEV, LEONID I)

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005